

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02850 250718Z
ACTION H-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8287
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 02850

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP, PINR, UR, CH, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF SENATOR JACKSON

REF: (A) MOSCOW 01858 (NOTAL), (B) MOSCOW 02191

1. DURING FEBRUARY 24 CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNSELOR, DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA'S USA DIVISION FEDOSEYEV VOLUNTEERED THAT AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN HAD RECENTLY TRANSMITTED ON BEHALF OF USSR PARLIAMENTARY GROUP INVITATION FOR SENATOR JACKSON TO VISIT SOVIET UNION. DATE, ITINERARY AND PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS WERE UP TO THE SENATOR, SAID FEDOSEYEV, BUT SOVIET INFORMATION IS THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAS NOT YET APPLIED FOR VISA SENATOR JACKSON TENTATIVELY PLANS TO ARRIVE HERE END OF MARCH.

2. FOLLOWING ITS FEBRUARY 12 SHARP DENUNCIATION OF SENATOR JACKSON AS COLD WAR ADVOCATE, AUTHOR OF DISCRIMINATORY JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT AND SUPPORTER OF ANTI-SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS "RENEGADES" (REF B), TODAY'S PRAVDA CARRIES BRIEF FEBRUARY 23 TASS ITEM WHICH GIVES NEGATIVE SLANT TO HIS WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE ON HIS RECENT TALKS WITH CHINESE LEADERS. TASS ITEM (ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS TEXT) STATES THAT IT IS OBVIOUS FROM
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SENATOR'S UTTERANCES THAT CHINESE ARE:

-- HOSTILE TO PEACE AND DETENTE;
-- FAVOR NATO;
-- WARN AGAINST SALT II WEAKENING WEST;
-- COMPLAIN US GIVING INSUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO INCREASING
ARMAMENTS;

-- HAVE COMMON ELEMENTS WITH US IN APPROACH TO KEY STRATEGIES;
-- HAVE POSITION CLOSE TO THAT OF US RE SADAT'S SEPARATE TALKS WITH ISRAEL.

3. COMMENT: IF IT EVENTUATES, THIS TRIP WILL BE QUITE AN EVENT POSING UNIQUE CHALLENGE FOR SOVIETS, WHO, WHILE EXTENDING FORMAL INVITATION, HAVE CLEARLY SEIZED UPON SENATOR JACKSON'S RECENT STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TRADE, ARMS CONTROL, AND CHINA TO ACCENTUATE THEIR PUBLIC HOSTILITY TO HIS POSITION. OBVIOUSLY THEY DO NOT THINK THEY CAN TURN HIS POSITION AROUND. HOWEVER, ON SALT THEY MAY HOPE TO INDUCE HIM TO MODERATE HIS STANCE TO SUCH A DEGREE AS TO IMPROVE PROSPECTS FOR A SENATE RATIFICATION OF A SALT II TREATY.

4. REFUSENIK DISSIDENT SOURCES IN MOSCOW TELL US THEY HEAR A TRIP BY THE SENATOR IS IN THE OFFING AND WILL ATTEMPT TO CONTACT SENATOR WHILE HE IS IN MOSCOW.

5. HOSTING BY SUPREME SOVIETS USSR PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ASSURES THAT THE BRUNT OF THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMMING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE BORNE BY SOVIETS. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF MANY SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING FROM DEPARTMENT ASAP DETAILED INFORMATION ON PLANS AND DESIRES OF SENATOR AND HIS ENTOURAGE FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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PROGRAM, ITINERARY, UNOFFICIAL CONTACTS AND PRESS CONFERENCES AS WELL AS DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON EMBASSY ROLE.
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